

RAVALLI COUNTY ANIMAL PROTECTION AND CONTROL BOARD
2/23/09

Present – Barb, Peg, Ethyl, Monica, Judy, Kristen, Brenda, Nathan, Vicki, Becky

Excused – Susan Absent- Don, Scott

Minutes - January minutes were approved.

Treasurers Report - \$20,346.28

Old Business:

Commissioners meeting: Our annual report was presented to the commissioners. The commissioners were attentive, Commissioner Chilcott took issue with our closed meeting in December, claiming volunteers are not personnel, although Peg had been advised to do so. That snafu aside, the commissioners do understand that the ACO must be supported by the county.

There was no update on vehicle availability due to Don's absense. Vicki offered that the state auctions are a possibility for an ACO vehicle. We could save thousands of dollars in buying one, they have maintainance histories. There is a possibility that we might be able to work with the county road crew to get a vehicle.

BRHA was meeting with their attorney 2/24/09 to discuss the wording. in their MOU to RCSO. Vicki passed around a rough draft of the MOU to show our board what the issues were.

Peg & Vlcki discussed their involvement with the ACO working committee formed by the commissioners. At this point the commissioners want to focus on licensing and compliance to generate income. NACA training information is needed for ACO officer.

The auction we were hoping to raffle our last saddle at has been rescheduled to September. SO we still need to find venues for ticket sales. We will have a table set up at the MT-CAN event in May, Becky offered to help with a table at the Lone Rock 4-H event, March 21st. She cannot do it herself, since she is helping in other areas of the event, so she will have to have help. Kristen thought it might be a possibility to show the saddle at the Ravalli REpublic between events. It was decided that Barb will get a list of events from the Chamber of Commerce, Monica will meet with Rusty at Fairgrounds for their events list. The fundraising committee will meet to cuss and discuss other venues and ideas. There is also a possibility of a grant from Farmers State BANK for educational issues, which might be able to include funding of NACA training.

In the public relations arena, it was discussed that the long lines at the courthouse deter people from buying licenses. It was discussed that an addendum be added to the sign at the courthouse, indicating where else the licenses could be bought. Posters were also handed out for public dispersal.

New Business:

The commissioners have decided that there will be a training session for all members of all volunteer boards for the county. They are unsure of when this will be held. Possibly mid-March but nothing for certain.

Peg in an ongoing mission to keep communications open with our valley veterinarians will send them all a letter, including our annual report, and ask them to read it and call if they have any input or concerns.

For our March meeting, we want to have a bare bones draft of what will be needed to start up with an ACO. Rock solid budget (no frills or creative bookkeeping), vehicle, training, clothing, phone, etc. This information Peg & Vicki will take to ACO working committee for them to get started on the process. It was decided that no further PR work be done until we actually have an ACO. The public is tired of hearing about how an ACO is coming but they never see any progress in the matter. Peg offered to get together a 1 year / 1 ACO budget from the information we already have, and get the pay scale from Robert Jennings at the courthouse.

All that being said and done we adjourned our meeting and left in an effort to enjoy a rare evening of above freezing temperatures. Our next meeting will be March 23, 2009.

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